

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the title has been amended to provide improved correlation with the drawings and claims. No new matter is presented in this Preliminary Amendment.

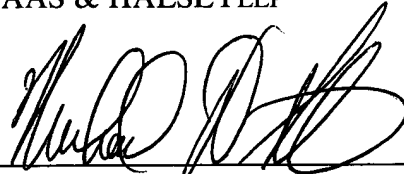
In view of the foregoing amendments, arguments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our deposit account number 19-3935.

Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEYLLP



Michael D. Stein

Registration No. 37,240

Dated 7/18/00

700 Eleventh Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
Telephone: (202) 434-1500